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ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO: 02597

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: FILSHIE, Marcus et al.

Serial No: To be assigned

Filed: Concurrently herewith

For: SURGICAL CLIP

U.S. National Phase of PCT/GB00/02709 filed July 14, 2000

Examiner: To be assigned

Art Unit: To be assigned

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

STATEMENT FILED PURSUANT TO THE DUTY OF  
DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the Applicant requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97

A. This Information Disclosure Statement has been filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified case. No fee or certification is required.

Information Cited

A. The Applicant hereby makes of record in the above-identified application the information listed on the attached form PTO-1449. The order of presentation of the references should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the references.

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**Remarks**

Copies of the references cited on the enclosed Form 1449 are not enclosed. The references should have been forwarded along with the International Search Report.

It is respectfully requested that:

1. The Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims;
2. The enclosed form PTO-1449 be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application;
3. The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

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Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicant, the Examiner is urged to form his own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information.

An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 15, 2002

By: 

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**Burden Hour Statement:** This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.